

# Milwaukee Water Works

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## **Carrie M. Lewis Receives Women of Influence Award**

Carrie M. Lewis is the recipient of a 2012 Milwaukee Women of Influence Public Policy Award. Lewis is Superintendent of the Milwaukee Water Works. She has led the utility to its recognition nationally as a leader in providing high quality water and water quality monitoring.

Lewis is the daughter of former Dover City, N.H. Councillor and State Legislator Bob Lewis and Dorothy Lewis.

The award was presented June 15 at a luncheon attended by 900 people at the Midwest Airlines Convention Center in Milwaukee. The program was sponsored by the *Business Journal Serving Greater Milwaukee*.

### **Public Policy Award**

With her expertise in drinking water quality science, water treatment, and water system financial and security issues and her management of a nationally recognized water utility, Lewis is making a difference in public policy that impacts public health and business, industry and research. As Milwaukee rises as a global leader in freshwater science and industry, Lewis ensures sterling water service which provides a strong foundation for economic growth and stability.

### **Her job description**

As superintendent, Lewis directs the City of Milwaukee-owned water utility. The Milwaukee Water Works serves a population of 867,000 with wholesale and retail service in 16 communities. Annual revenues of \$88 million support a net utility plant in service of \$397 million. Over 30 billion gallons of water are treated and distributed annually. The utility functions with 350 employees in Plants, Distribution, Business, Engineering, and Water Quality work units.

Lewis is the first woman to serve as superintendent of the Milwaukee Water Works, now in its 141st year of operation. She was named the utility's first water quality manager in 1995 and appointed superintendent in 1997.

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*Safe, Abundant Drinking Water.*

## **Milwaukee Water Works**

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#### **Shaping national drinking water policy and research**

Lewis shares her expertise and knowledge to shape national drinking water regulatory policy. She represented the American Water Works Association (AWWA) as a negotiator on the Federal Advisory Committee for the Revised Total Coliform Rule, contributing to broad stakeholder agreement on changes to enhance water utility's role in public health protection. She has been a member of the AWWA Standard Methods Committee for 17 years.

Lewis is a member of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) Board of Directors and chairs its Regulatory and Audit Committees. She has served on numerous Project Advisory Committees for the national Water Research Foundation on topics ranging from treatment plant optimization to water system security.

After 9/11, Lewis made a substantial contribution to the security knowledge base available to water utilities, including presenting information at AWWA sessions, participating on Project Advisory Committees for the Water Research Foundation, critiquing documentation for the EPA Water Security Task Force, and becoming a founding member of the Water ISAC Board of Managers. Locally, she serves on the Milwaukee County Critical Infrastructure Protection Group.

#### **Respect of the industry and regulators**

The co-author of two books on particle counting in drinking water treatment, Lewis has been published over 30 times by the AWWA, the Water Research Foundation, Centers for Disease Control, and various public health associations.

Lewis was honored in 2006 with the drinking water industry's most prestigious distinction, the AWWA George Warren Fuller Award. She was the first woman to win the award in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Section of the AWWA presented her with its Research Award in 2001 for outstanding achievements in drinking water-related research.

Follow this link for a conversation with Carrie Lewis and more information:

[http://www2.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/events/2012/women\\_of\\_influence/](http://www2.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/events/2012/women_of_influence/)

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